Author's response to reviews

Title: Etanercept in the treatment of recalcitrant enteropathic arthritis: a case report

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors,

Enclosed is the revised manuscript ID 6630524295479154
Etanercept in the treatment of recalcitrant enteropathic arthritis : a case report.

Thank you for all the comments and suggestions. Below were the revisions that have been done according the reviewers’ suggestions and comments.

1. I would change the title to the following: "Etanercept in the treatment of recalcitrant enteropathic arthritis : a case report."
   (DONE)

2. In the introduction section, the sentence "For peripheral arthritis, two types has been described in literatures, oligoarticular (type I) and polyarticular (type II) (7-9)." please change the word "literatures" to "literature". (DONE)

3. Also in the introduction section, the sentence "Although there's no randomized controlled trials on the efficacy of sulfalazine, it is the most widely used in enteropathic spondyloarthritis (10)." please change the word "there's" to "there are". (DONE)

4. For the sentence "Analgesics particularly NSAIDs and COX-2 inhibitors should be use cautiously as it can cause exacerbation of bowel symptoms (13)." please define the abbreviations "NSAIDs" and "COX-2". (DONE)

5. In the case presentation section, the sentence "Patient is a 58 year old Malay lady who was diagnosed to have ulcerative colitis in 1990 when she first presented with recurrent diarrhea." please place the word "The" before the word "patient". (DONE)

6. The sentence "There's no other extra-articular manifestation such as uveitis or pyoderma gangrenosum." should be "There were no other extra-articular manifestations such as uveitis or pyoderma gangrenosum." (DONE)

7. The sentence "Besides that, after almost few years of corticosteroid therapy, our patient has endured significant iatrogenic morbidity, including Cushingoid habitus, impaired fasting glucose, hypertension and bilateral cataract with increased intraocular pressure." should be "Besides that, after almost a few years of corticosteroid therapy, our patient has endured significant iatrogenic morbidity, including Cushingoid habitus, impaired..."
fasting glucose, hypertension and bilateral cataract with increased intraocular pressure." (DONE)

8. "Intraoperatively, there was active synovitis of the left knee and histopathological examination of the synovial tissue were revealed ‘rice bodies’, which was fibrocollagenous connective tissue stroma with admixed with fibrinous exudates and abundant foci of vascular proliferation, suggestive of inflammatory arthritis (Figure 1)." should be "Intraoperatively, there was active synovitis of the left knee and histopathological examination of the synovial tissue revealed ‘rice bodies’, which are fibrocollagenous connective tissue stroma with admixed with fibrinous exudates and abundant foci of vascular proliferation, suggestive of inflammatory arthritis (Figure 1)." (DONE)

9. "One month post op, the left knee effusion recurred and there was persistent elevated of the inflammatory markers." should be "One month post op, the left knee effusion recurred and there was persistent elevation of inflammatory markers." (DONE)

10. "The steroid was also managed to be tapered off at six month of treatment." should be "The steroid was also managed to be tapered off after six months of treatment." (DONE)

11. "SC etanercept 25mg biweekly and methotrexate 10mg weekly was continued and after 12 months of follow up, there’s no more relapse of the colitis or arthritis and no serious side effects being noted." should be "Subcutaneous etanercept 25mg biweekly and methotrexate 10mg weekly was continued and after 12 months of follow up, there were no more relapse of the colitis or arthritis and no serious side effects noted." (DONE)

12. In the discussion section the sentence "Even though sulfasalazine seems to be promising in inflammatory bowel disease-related arthropathy (14, 15) however this patient did not show good response with the treatment indicating need for biologics therapy." should be "Even though sulfasalazine seems to be promising in inflammatory bowel disease-related arthropathy (14, 15), this patient did not show a good response with the treatment indicating the need for biologics therapy." (DONE)

13. The term "et al" should be spelled "et al." (DONE)

14. Please define the abbreviation "AS" which was used in the
discussion section. (DONE)

15. "Table 1 summarised the previous studies of anti TNF in enteropathic arthritis." should be "Table 1 summarises the previous studies of anti TNF in enteropathic arthritis." (DONE)

16. "Despite no role of etanercept in the treatment of the underlying colitis, it was chosen due to the availability of the medication in our hospital and patient’s preference..." should be "Despite no role of etanercept in the treatment of the underlying colitis, it was chosen due to the availability of the medication in our hospital and the patient’s preference..." (THIS SENTENCE HAS BEEN MODIFIED)

17. "However, retreatment is safe and still effective which resulting in similar clinical improvement (36)." please delete the word "which". (DONE)

18. "Therefore, the optimum duration of the treatment is not known and most likely this patient will require lifelong treatment and that will definitely comes at a very high cost." should be "Therefore, the optimum duration of the treatment is not known and most likely this patient will require lifelong highly expensive treatment. (DONE)

19. Please define the terms "BASDAI, BASFI and EQ-5D". (EQ – 5D IS NOT A SHORT FORM)

20. "...unremitting ankylosing spondylitis who failed optimum 2 NSAIDs in UK with the majority cost were below £25k per QALY at 5 years." should be "...unremitting ankylosing spondylitis who failed two optimum NSAIDs in the United Kingdom with the majority cost below £25k per QALY at 5 years." (DONE)

21. "Etanercept is the only biologics remained within the range of cost-effectiveness estimates considered to represent value for money in the NHS by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (37)." should be "Etanercept is the only biologics within the range of cost-effectiveness estimates considered to represent value for money in the NHS by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (37)." Also, please define the abbreviation "NHS". (DONE)

22. "However, the study was not head-to-head comparison."
should be "However, the study was not a head-to head comparison." (DONE)

23. The following sentence is long and awkward: "Eventhough biologics treatment have marked improvement clinically and radiologically includes synovitis and enthesitis which help prevent ankylosis in short term, but it remains to be shown whether patients benefit from long-term anti-TNF therapy and whether radiologic progression and ankylosis can be stopped totally." Perhaps better would be "Even though biologics treatment has demonstrated marked clinical and radiological improvement in both synovitis and enthesitis thus preventing ankylosis in the short term, it remains to be shown whether patients benefit from long-term anti-TNF therapy and whether radiologic progression and ankylosis can be stopped totally." (DONE)

24. "Study by Baraliakos et al showed that after 2 years of treatment,..." should be "A study by Baraliakos et al, showed that after 2 years of treatment,..."

25. Why did the authors need to obtain consent from the patient's next of kin, rather than from the patient herself directly? (REQUEST FROM THE PATIENT. WHEN HER RELATIVE GAVE THE CONSENT SHE WAS ALSO PRESENT)

26. The number of references is high. Usually allows 10-15 or 30 at the upper limit. (DONE)